



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
*Office of the Secretary of State*

**Matthew A. Brown**  
*Secretary of State*

February 19, 2003

Mr. David Anderson, Scout Executive  
Narragansett Council, Boy Scouts of America  
175 Broad Street  
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Mr. Anderson:

As I begin my term as Secretary of State, I want to commend your dedication to public service and to the Boy Scouts of America. As a leader in scouting you play an integral part in developing the future leaders of our country.

I have always believed that the greatest resource we have in our democracy is the talent and energy of our citizens. Ten years ago I helped to found and later served as Executive Director of City Year, a statewide organization that annually puts more than seventy diverse young people to work each year in full-time community service. More recently, I started the Democracy Compact (now known as Vote for America), a voter education program that dramatically increased voter participation in Rhode Island in 2000. Both organizations are dedicated to teaching the values of public service to our youth, much like the Boy Scouts.

Your work as Scout Executive will inspire a new generation of leaders to become involved in their communities, and help solve the problems facing our country. Your leadership and commitment to the Scouts is vital to the strength of our democracy.

Civic participation is going to be a focus of my administration, and I look forward to meeting you, visiting your scouts and having the opportunity to recognize their achievements, especially those who earn the highest honor of Eagle Scout.

As Secretary of State, I am pleased to honor Eagle Scouts with official citations from my office. Please contact me regarding upcoming ceremonies as early as possible, as I would like to present citations in person when my schedule permits. I would also appreciate your sharing this letter with your scoutmasters throughout the state.

Once again, thank you for your dedication and please let me know if I may be of assistance to your organization.

Sincerely,

Matthew A. Brown

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